Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SSO-00 OES-06 AF-08 SS-15 NSC-05

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INFO USMISSION IAEA VIENNA
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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: IAEA, SA

SUBJ: IAEA: SOUTH AFRICAN MEMBERSHIP ON BOARD OF GOVERNORS

REF: STATE 239398

SUMMARY: ITAMARATY SECRETARY GENERAL (ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER) GUERREIRO TOLD CHARGE BRAZIL IS READY TO VOTE IN FAVOR OF NIGERIAN RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD CALL ON IAEA GOVERNING BOARD AT ITS NEXT YEAR'S MEETING TO QUESTION SOUTH AFRICA'S CREDENTIALS FOR BOARD. CHARGE PRESENTED ARGUMENTS REFTEL, EMPHASIZING DESIRABILITY OF BRINGING SOUTH AFRICA'S FACILITIES UNDER SOME FORM OF CONTROL. GUERREIRO AGREED OUR MUTUAL INTERESTS WOULD BEST BE SERVED BY KEEPING SOUTH AFRICA ON THE BOARD, BUT SAID BRAZIL BELIEVES NIGERIANS HAVE THE VOTES THEY NEED AND WILL LIKELY FOLLOW MAJORITY. CHARGE LEFT TALKING POINTS PAPER WHICH GUERREIRO AGREED TO STUDY. END SUMMARY.

1. CHARGE CALLED ON SECRETARY GENERAL (ACTING FOREIGN

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MINISTER) GUERREIRO AFTERNOON SEPTEMBER 27 TO PRESENT

ARGUMENTS REFTEL FOR OPPOSING EFFORTS REJECT SOUTH AFRICAN CREDENTIALS FOR IAEA BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND TO SEEK BRAZILIAN SUPPORT.

2. GUERREIRO HAS BEEN IN CLOSE TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH BRAZILIAN IAEA DELEGATION IN RIO DE JANEIRO TODAY AND IS FOLLOWING CAREFULLY EVOLUTION OF TEXT OF NIGERIAN RESOLUTION. AS MOST RECENTLY REPORTED TO HIM, RESOLUTION WOULD CALL ON BOARD OF GOVERNORS AT ITS NEXT MEETING TO CONSIDER WHETHER SOUTH AFRICA, GIVEN APARTHEID, IS BEST QUALIFIED TO REPRESENT AFRICANS ON BOARD. HE SAID NIGERIA IS STILL ATTEMPTING TO DRAFT A RESOLUTION WHICH WILL GAIN FULL CONSENSUS, BUT IF RESOLUTION AS PRESENTLY DRAFTED IS PUT TO VOTE, IT WOULD WIN BY WIDE MARGIN. BRAZIL AS HOST COUNTRY IS KEEPING LOW PROFILE AND NOT LOBBYING, BUT WOULD VOTE IN FAVOR OF RESOLUTION. IF QUESTION OF SOUTH AFRICAN CREDENTIALS FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE GOES TO A VOTE, BRAZIL WOULD ABSTAIN, GUERREIRO SAID.

3. CHARGE REFERRED AGAIN TO COMPLICATIONS WHICH MIGHT ENSUE IN CONNECTION WITH DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA NOW UNDERWAY, OBSERVING THAT EVEN A DELAYED-ACTION RESOLUTION LIKELY HAVE SUCH AN EFFECT. HE REEMPHASIZED DESIRABILITY OF BRINGING SOUTH AFRICA'S FACILITIES, INCLUDING WEAPON-MAKING POTENTIAL, UNDER INTERNATIONAL CONTROL, AND MENTIONED EFFECT WHICH NIGERIAN RESOLUTION MIGHT WELL HAVE ON THESE POSSIBILITIES. GUERREIRO AGREED THAT FROM OUR MUTUAL STANDPOINT IT WOULD BE BETTER TO HAVE SOUTH AFRICA REMAIN IN THE ORGANIZATION. WITH SOME POSSIBILITIES OF CONTROL, BUT INDICATED THAT NONETHELESS BRAZIL LIKELY TO FOLLOW AFRO-ASIAN MAJORITY. CHARGE LEFT TALKING PAPER WITH US ARGUMENTS IN FULL, WHICH GUERREIRO AGREED TO STUDY CAREFULLY. **JOHNSON**

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